

Beacon Charter High School for the Arts  
320 Main Street  
Woonsocket, Rhode Island 02895

Minutes of the Board of Trustees meeting of 11/19/2014

In Attendance:

Mr. Frank Tweedie, Chair  
Ms. Eileen Tweedie  
Ms. Laura Nottie  
Mr. Michael Balint  
Mr. Joseph Garlick  
Mr. Leo Fontaine  
Dr. Ralph Jasparro  
Dr. Paul McVety  
Ms. Amy Beth Bergeron (upon election)  
Ms. Elaine Moy Gederman (upon election)

Absent:

Mr. George Costa  
Dr. Robert Billington  
Mr. Richard Brush

Meeting opened at 6:01pm

A motion was made by Dr. McVety to vote in two new board members to fill the two open parents positions, who are Amy Beth Bergeron and Elaine Moy Gederman. The motion was seconded by Ms. Nottie, and all approved the motion.

Ms. Tweedie made a motion to approve the minutes of the August 20. The motion was seconded by Dr. McVety and all approved the motion.

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

Dr. Skeldon discussed a few points from his Principal's report (attached). He thanked the board for their participation in the Gala, which was deemed a success.

-The new Special Education Director will be an interim position for the remainder of the year.

-In regards to the Cato Street property, the city placed a value of \$74,000 for tax purposes. Mr. Dickinson filed an appeal with the city's assessor's office to discuss their value, but has not heard anything yet. Beacon's independent assessor valued the property at \$55,000. Ciro's Tavern is interested in purchasing the property for \$35,000. A resolution is needed from the board to give authority for the sale of the property. The property is in the

mortgage held by Bank RI, so they would have to release it from the mortgage. Dr. Jasparro made a motion for the Board to draw up a resolution to give authority to Mr. Tweedie, Dr. Skeldon, and Mr. Dickinson to begin the proceedings to sell the property on Cato Street at a minimum price of \$35,000. The motion was seconded by Dr. McVety, and all approved the motion.

Dr. Skeldon would like to use some of the funds from the sale of Cato Street to begin a project to upgrade technology at Beacon, including to purchase a Chromebook computer for every student. This would start slow and begin with one grade at a time. Mr. Tweedie asked Dr. Skeldon to send a plan for this project to give the Board to consider.

## COMMITTEE REPORTS

Mrs. Florence Stevens gave the Board a run down of PTSA's activities. She is collaborating with Mrs. Hawkridge about giving more art's workshops. She is also looking for Board officers as Secretary, Second Vice-Chair, and Membership Chairman. Mrs. Stevens discussed some of the fundraising opportunities the group is looking at in the spring. The funds would go to the scholarship fund. She also announced plans for a dinner serving chinese food on February 4.

Ms. Nicole Rattay (see attached) discussed highlights from her Academic Dean's report (attached). In reference to the upcoming PARCC testing, Dr. McVety asked how the outcomes from Beacon might compare to the outcomes from the rest of the state. Ms. Rattay said the STAR testing the school already uses, may give us an indication of what to expect, and to use that information to plan. Dr. Jasparro indicated that our scores, as compared with NECAP, will probably be lower, which is in line with the rest of the country. The Beacon faculty and parents should prepare for that outcome. Dr. Skeldon made the observation that "we should not be teaching to a test, we should test to what is being taught".

Mrs. Robin Murphy gave her Dean of Student's Report (see attached). She reported that the students are giving thought about college and taking college preparations more seriously. Dr. McVety thought it would be a good idea to post the colleges the students were accepted to in the front lobby. A running tally of the scholarships earned would be of interest to the students and families as well.

Mrs. Patricia Hawkridge shared her Dean of the Arts report (see attached). Mrs. Hawkridge listed a calendar of events with her report.

Mrs. Tina Go shared her Admissions and Operations report (attached). Brian Rea locked on the oil at \$2.85 a gallon for the season.

There was no Director of Special Education report until one is hired.

Mrs. Sue Crotty shared her report from the business office (attached).

Mrs. Nottie made a motion to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Mr. Fontaine and all approved. The meeting ended at 7:24pm.

The next meeting is scheduled for February 11, 2015 at 6pm.